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Police Step Up Security, Hunt for Envoy's Killers

NEW YORK, Sept. 12 (AP)—As diplomats condemned the slaying Thursday night of a Cuban attache, the city today heightened police protection for the Cuban U.N. Mission, and a task force hunting the killers vowed to increase its efforts.

"If they thought the heat was on before, they ain't seen nothing yet," the head of the FBI police task force said of the anti-Castro terrorists who claimed responsibility for the murder of Feliz Garcia-Rodriguez, who was shot as he drove through Queens.

[The New York Daily News quoted law enforcement sources as saying that Garcia-Rodriguez was a high-level spy for Cuban President Fidel Castro.]

[Garcia-Rodriguez, whom officials first described to police as a low-level administrator and then as a chauffeur, actually was a high-ranking intelligence officer sent to this country two years ago by the head of Castro's internal security office. The News quoted the sources as saying. They said that he was responsible for keeping surveillance on a Cuban drug-smuggling ring in Miami, the newspaper reported.]

U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim urged the United States to take all necessary measures to protect Cuban diplomats here. He condemned the killing as the first here of a diplomat assigned to the 135-nation world body as a "wanton act of terrorism, which is a further and tragic illustration of the increasing violence to which diplomats have been subjected around the world."

Officials focused on the anti-Castro terrorist group Omega 7. A man called the Associated Press within minutes of the shooting and said Omega 7 had committed "the execution." He also warned that Raul Roa, Cuba's U.N. ambassador, would be next.

Roa complained before the U.N. General Assembly today that "these groups of professional assassins" operate with "impunity"—they hold public office, convene public meetings and publish their statements in New York's Hispanic press.

Mayor Edward I. Koch met today with Roa and ordered extra police protection for the remaining 39 members of the Cuban U.N. delegation.

Donald McHenry, the American U.N. ambassador, expressed "sincere regret for this cowardly act resulting in a tragic loss of life."

Havana Radio termed Garcia's slaying a "cowardly murder" and said it "tragically confirms the reiterated denunciation of our country before the United Nations, pointing out the impunity with which terrorist counter-revolutionary groups act in the United States."

Granma, Cuba's official newspaper, said "at no time have those guilty of

attacks on Cuban diplomats been brought to justice in the United States."

The Soviet news agency Tass said in its report that anti-Cuban activities occur in this country with "the full connivance" of U.S. authorities.

FBI officials repeated an offer of a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Omega 7 members. Later in the day, the city put up a \$10,000 reward of its own.

Meanwhile, across the street from the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, about 300 members of the Committee to End the U.S. Blockade Against Cuba chanted, "FBI, CIA, we demand justice today."

Michelle Frank, a committee spokesman, said the group was protesting the slaying and "the unconscionable blockade of Cuba by the U.S. government."

In Boston, 30 persons picketed outside the federal building in protest of the slaying. "The protest is to call attention to the assassination and to inspire the government to make a full investigation," said Cornelia D'Mills, spokesman for the Boston Community to End Terrorism in the Cuban Community.